



**Friday 4 October 2019**

Dear Parents/Carers & Friends

**Key Dates:**

Week Beginning:

Wednesday 6 October	AM: Mrs Kelly @ Cluster HT Meeting, Holy Rood High
Thursday 7 October	PM: Mrs Kelly attending retirement Mass for Mrs Legrix
Friday 11 October	Half Term
Wednesday 23 October	Pupils Return

**Nasal Flu Injections**

Thursday 24 October	AM: P7 attending Thinking Ahead event at Holy Rood High
Tuesday 29 October	P7 to Benmore Outdoor Centre (Residential)
Wednesday 30 October	P4 Outing to Edinburgh Castle

**Weekly Round-Up**

Thank you to everyone who attended parental consultations on Wednesday and this afternoon. These meetings are incredibly important, and we hope you find them useful in sharing your child's ongoing progress and learning. It was great to be supported by S6 Ambassadors from Holy Rood High who attended both sessions, Wed and Fri, their obvious pride in their school shone through and I'm sure they helped our P6/7 parents with any questions.

- On Tuesday I attended the second of the Edinburgh Primary Headteacher meetings; a full agenda, we heard from colleagues from Skills Development Scotland sharing a resource called My World of Work. This resource is for pupils in P5-7 as they begin to think about the types of jobs and careers they might be suited to. We undertook a task called 'my animal me' – a personality test which suggested several suitable jobs for you at the end of

the test. No surprise to me, my animal was a 'koala' and working in education was a good match. Phew, thank goodness!! P5-7 will enjoy using the resource I'm sure and it will travel with the P7's as we discovered Edinburgh secondary schools use this as part of their core 'Developing the Young Workforce' teaching and learning activities.

- While I was out on Tuesday I missed the fun P6 enjoyed when the police and fire service arrived in the playground – this was part of the Agents for Change, Early Intervention work P6 have been undertaking the past few weeks. This topic is led by Davie and Diane from the Jack Kane Centre, our thanks to them for arranging the visits. If you haven't already done so, I recommend you look at the website and twitter to see pics of the day – as everyone has commented, Miss Sinclair and Ms Mitchell enjoyed the visit as much (if not more) than their pupils!
- Wednesday began with a visit from Councillor Ian Perry, Convener of Education, Children and Families. Cllr Perry was keen to hear how we have settled into the building, now we have exceeded our first-year anniversary. He was struck by how quiet and purposeful the classes were as he walked around, particularly as he shared the open style of our classes were so different to his primary school days. He was also keen to hear how we had been consulted in the design of the building and to hear of what was left on the 'snagging' list – being head of planning before Convener of Education he was able to help direct us to support to ensure these final few outstanding tasks will be completed.
- On Thursday Mrs Morrison and a group of P5&6 pupils jumped on the number 5 bus along to the Royal High Primary for the launch of this year's Twende Pamoja (Let's Walk Together) project. Our pupils met with pupils from eleven primary schools and special guests from Tanzania to discuss the environment and how we all have collective responsibility to look after our world. Further information and pictures from the event are to be found on the school website.
- Another visitor to school this morning was Janis Mackay, author, who came to read, sing and entertain our P2 classes with her special story: The Wee Seal. This visit was part of the Portobello Book Festival and was kindly organised for us by Louise Kelly, local author and ex-parent. Louise organised the funding via Scottish Book Trust, Live Literature scheme which ensured no cost to the school. P2 absolutely loved the session with Janis and we are looking to purchase some of Janis's books for the infant libraries.

### **Some Sporting News**

The PEPAS group, with Mrs McIntyre and Lauren, our active school's coordinator received some exciting news as were awarded **SILVER** status from Sport Scotland who have shared we are well placed in going on for Gold, their highest award. Our

committee are very proud of attaining silver at first time of asking and are working hard at collecting the evidence we need for Gold – part of this is to demonstrate we celebrate successes in and out of school, so please do keep sending us news of your child/children's sporting achievements.

P6 Junior NBA participated in their first matches this afternoon, where they lost their first match but won the second, a fantastic results, against, mostly P7's – more info on the website. Our thanks to Kian's mum and grandad in organising and preparing them and for those who helped with transport to/from Tynecastle.

### **Sumdog Competition**

Mrs Birdsell was very proud of P5B who finished 31<sup>st</sup> in the recent Sumdog competition in which 3,394 schools took part. Their highest position throughout the comp was 9<sup>th</sup> and 20 out of 28 children in the class answered all 1000 questions – Mrs Birdsell has asked to thank parents for their support.

### **Building Resilience – Make a Difference**

At assembly this morning we heard from classes in P1-6 about what they have been doing since the start of term in this topic. P3 are keen to support Marys Meals with a porridge day – look out for more info. P4 and P5 provided us with lots of information about Resilience and had made acrostic poems and posters and knew many ways in which the actions they take have a direct impact on communities and the wider environment. P6 talked about endangered animals and P1 showed off their repurposed junk robots and models – made from materials that would usually be discarded – thanks to all classes for sharing and for P7's patience – we ran out of time so will hear what they have been up to next Friday. Improving the environment/climate change is talked about a lot by our pupils now – they want to affect change but can also be worried and anxious – this is an area where we will continue to support them.

**A Plea:** one of our new P1's blazer has been missing for a few weeks, with the hope that it would be returned. Lost property search has not unearthed it – please could you look at home – green wool blazer, with school badge and name CRAGG written clearly on the inside, thanks.

**Aldi Get Set...Go** – the deadline is 7<sup>th</sup> Nov – please do keep sending in the tokens and if you are not a regular Aldi shopper, plan a visit, the middle aisle is like an Aladdin's cave of wonders!

### **AND FINALLY...Hallowe'en**

Tickets to the parties are on sale via the link below:

The tickets are now on sale for our annual Halloween Disco on **Sunday 3rd of November**. The cost is £3.25 per child's ticket. There are two slots:

- P1 to P3 at 3 to 4pm
- P4 to P7 at 4.15 to 5.30pm

The tickets can be purchased online and will download as an eticket. There is no need to print these as we will have your booking details. Please click on the link below to book.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stjohnsrcprimaryschool/308257>

As with any Parent Council event we are looking for volunteers to help at each party. Based on total numbers expected around 20 volunteers are needed.

*I would be grateful to have items for next week's round-up – if your child has an achievement, sporting or otherwise, please do let us know and we will endeavour to include.*

Email [admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk)

*Jacqueline Kelly*

Headteacher